

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District

Walla Walla Distric
Public Affairs Office

News Release

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Security measures increased, access reduced at Corps facilities

Walla Walla, Wash. -- All facilities of the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, are operating under increased security measures, according to agency officials this morning.

"The security controls include our headquarters building, project offices, and all our dams," said Security Officer David Piper. "These controls are along the lines that other Corps facilities are using."

The District operates eight dams in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. These facilities provide a range of services that vary by location but may include water management, power production, navigation, and other purposes. Access to these facilities will be restricted to official business only until further notice.

Campgrounds, parks, picnic and other recreation areas remain open to the public. The visitor centers at all District locations are closed and tours have been canceled. Roadways over all four lower Snake River dams are closed and the public is advised to use other highway routes. The navigation locks remain open to commercial and recreational use.

The Corps generally does not comment in any great detail about its security processes and policies. The work force has been advised of appropriate measures throughout the District.

"I've directed our work force in the steps that have been directed coming down the chain of command and have provided instruction on the local measures to be applied," said Lt. Col. Rich Wagenaar, commander of the Walla Walla District. "Our thoughts and condolences go out to the families, loved ones, and coworkers of the victims of these tragic events today."